

Transformational Public-Private Partnership Framework: Key Considerations in The Design and Implementation of a School-Based Programme for A Healthier Nation and Planet

Dr. Brinda Oogarah-Pratap
Mauritius Institute of Education, Mauritius

Abstract

School-based public-private partnerships are increasingly viewed as constituting effective initiatives to address contemporary climate and health-related issues, especially in low- and middle-income countries. One such initiative is the Healthier Kids Programme, a school-based programme, which aims at promoting lifestyle habits for a healthier nation and planet through multi-stakeholder partnerships. The sustainability of the Programme resides strongly on the building of a sound framework that promotes transformational public-private partnership, that is a partnership espousing social change on a large-scale and high level of engagement of various partners. This paper focuses on evidence-based principles and strategies to build the public-private partnership framework for the design and implementation of the programme and to define the role of each stakeholder. The programme involves a multinational food and beverage company as the private partner and a teacher education institution and local authorities as the public partners. The programme is currently being implemented at a national level in Mauritius, a middle-income small island state in the Indian Ocean, reaching out to approximately 50,000 primary school children (6 to 10 years), their parents or caregivers and about 550 primary school teachers. It comprises three coordinated educational components: training of teachers, classroom sessions and school community engagement, including parental involvement. The proposed framework has the potential to guide the design of school-based programmes to address climate and health-related issues on a large-scale and through the involvement of multiple stakeholders and partners.

Keywords: Primary Education, Health Education, Education for Sustainable Development, Transformational, Public-private partnership